100 Lawrence Plymouth Men - Goal $100,000.00

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CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

FEBRUARY • 1956

God's Neighborhood

This is Brotherhood Month throughout America, and her churches stand at attention in witness of the God-given heritage of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all people. Democracy is a political experiment to determine whether or not men of all races and creeds can live together with diminishing rebellion against God's law of love that shall bring joy unto all people.

Our problem is not racial difference, but cultural conflict. Science has proved that all races of men differ the same in classification of their blood, that no race has a monoply on intelligence or courage or evil or good. White supremacy is an illusion, and discrimination for reasons of race, creed, or color is our greatest universal embarrassment.

Our most dangerous enemies are not abroad. Our greatest weapons are not bombs. Our greatest hope is not wealth. Our greatest enemies are prejudices unchallenged here at home. Our greatest weapon is understanding and fellowship. Our greatest hope is the love of God in men's hearts, which brings peace to men of good will. Let us make new resolve to make our community, God's Neighborhood."

—George Ogden Kirk

Travels With A Purpose

Southern Tour

This year's tour to take place April 3-18 sounds very exciting and worthwhile. It is open to only 24 people and several have already reserved. It would be fine if at least two could go from Kansas. The trip will include visits to 12 projects including schools, colleges, hospitals, social centers and churches. In addition, you will have the thrill of seeing spring come alive in the Southland, visiting many famous historical landmarks and making new and happy Christian friendships. For further information write: Missions Council, 19 S. LaSalle St., Chicago 3, Ill.

1956 European Seminar

This Seminar sponsored by the Council for Social Action will be led this year by the Rev. and Mrs. Herman Reissig. The dates are June 30 to August 7. Places studied will include France Germany, The Soviet Union, Finland, Sweden, Holland and England. The cost is $1595.00. Mrs. Karl Leidig of Lenora, Kansas was a member of the 1955 Seminar. Many of you heard her glowing report at Association Meetings. Only 25 people can go. If interested, write, Rev. Herman Reissig, 289 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

General Council

The dates are June 20-27. The place is First Central Congregational Church at Omaha. Letters soliciting possible delegates will be sent to local churches early in March with cards to be returned to the Association Registrar by April 15. Delegates will be elected at the Association meetings held at State Conference on May 5.

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

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Your Moderator Speaking

The year 1955 has become history. We have all had a part in writing it. Whether it was good or bad; passive or active, we still had a part. Only God knows what our record shows.

The Thanksgiving time, the Christmas holiday season and the Advent time of the year have all been full of much joy and happiness and we all feel and know that the spirit of our Saviour is a little closer to each of us.

But what of the New Year? Where do we go from here? What can we do? Let us sit down and look out thru our window. What a wonderful world God has created! Large enough that we might all have plenty of room to apply to the fullest extent, all the talents we possess; productive enough to meet the needs of all God's children everywhere, if we care and share.

As we continue on with the tasks of this new year; my one great hope is that each individual will seek earnestly to find his or her part to do, that the kingdom of God might be more nearly attained here on earth.

Let us as individuals, as churches, as a State Conference, enter upon the task of building His Kingdom here on earth with renewed determination and sacrificial devotion.

May we get an enlarged vision of the present responsibility of the church in relation to the spiritual needs of the world today and put our vision into action.

May the Lord richly bless you all in your every effort, is my earnest prayer.

Your Moderator
Levi Zimmerman

South Central Wichita

The Rev. Mr. Elmo Paff with Mrs. Paff and the four children moved into the new parsonage at Wichita on January 20th. Mr. Paff preached his first sermon on January 22 in the Grace Wilson School.

Ground-Breaking

On that same afternoon sixty persons braved the cold and snow for ground-breaking ceremonies for a temporary meeting house at Galena and Laura. Participating in the service in addition to the new minister, were the Rev. Homer K. Shafer, executive secretary of the Wichita Council of Churches, the Rev. Orville M. Hepler, representing the Conference, Mrs. John W. Gibson, Chairman of the Wichita Extension Committee, Mrs. R. H. Garvey representing the Board of Home Missions and the ministers of our Wichita Congregational Churches.

Chambers to Udall

The Rev. Penn S. Chambers who for the past seven years has served a Community Church in the Planeview section of Wichita has accepted a call to our church at Udall and will begin work there March 1st. Kansas churches who helped rebuild the Udall Church following the tornado will be glad to know they will have resident leadership.

Little River Exands

The Little River Church now has a beautiful brick sanctuary with full basement, added to the old frame building. The Rev. Mr. Orville Hepler, Assistant Superintendent is directing a financial canvass from Feb. 14 to 19 to help secure necessary funds to adequately underwrite the cost of the new structure.

Where Do We Go From Here?

This question which captioned the blazing red brochure put out by Plymouth Church, Lawrence, following the devastating fire of Septmber 9, is being answered by consecrated efforts, devoted leadership and sacrificial giving.

Financial Campaign

The Campaign day, November 20, followed weeks of careful planning and training. Mr. Robert Oyler, laymen in the local church was chairman and the program was directed by the Rev. Ray Carlton Jones. One hundred men (pictured on the cover page) were enrolled, given training for four nights, and then commissioned at the Morning Worshop service on November 20. The goal of $100,000 for rebuilding was almost reached on the day of the canvass and more than $107,000 has been pledged to date. In addition the church budget for $40,000.00 was over-subscribed. Much of the success of the canvass is attributed to the careful planning and thorough follow-up.

Good Neighbor Day

An additional $1000.00 was recently contributed by the First Methodist Church across the street. On January 19, Methodist men cooked and Methodist women served pancakes with all the trimmings from early dawn until after dark. In addition to netting more than $1000.00 for each of the churches gutted by fire during the past year, (Episcopal and Congregational) The project created much good will in the community.

Great Bend Church Acquires Building Site

The $225,000.00 building program of The Great Bend Congregational Church, appeared well along toward realization recently with the filing of the deed, transferring the land which will be used as the building site. The location is the entire block between 21st and 22nd and between Polk and Tyler. Grantors are Leon and Ralph McKinney. Terms of the deed reserve mineral rights to the McKinney's and specify that building must be started within five years.

The movement within the church to enter upon a building program dates back to the fall of 1954 when Church Moderator, H. P. Thies was authorized to name a committee to find out whether they ought to remodel the old church or put up a new one. In March the 18-man committee recommended finding a new piece of ground and putting up a new edifice. On April 29 three special trustees for a building fund were named: H. P. Thies, J. K. Harris and Earl C. Moses. In July the Rev. Henry Eden Wright announced completion of a 60-day Fund Raising Drive which netted $225,000 in cash and pledges.

The Building Committee is made up of the following members: Ray Titus, John Mull, Herbert Diets, Wayne Bentley, Chairman, Earl Moses, Jr., Fred Schultis, Chairman Board of Trustes, E. C. Wedell, Chairman Board of Deacons. This committee is busy with plans and will be making further announcements soon.

CROP

Kansas ranks second to Texas in 1955 contributions with a total of $171,735.00. McPherson is top county with $22,462.00.

Proposed New Entrance - Topeka Central

Five Year Program

Included in a five year program voted at the Annual Meeting at Topeka Central on January 11, was a $200,000.00 remodeling program to be started this spring. Plans call for a new front entrance, new chancel and pastor's study, moving and remodeling the organ, a new heating and air conditioning system, work on the building's exterior, and other changes. Rooms on the first floor of the educational building across from the parlor will be made into a chapel. The large gymnasium will be remodeled to make two floors with a fellowship hall on the first floor and class rooms on the second.

Other Goals Adopted

A net membership increase of 77 each year which would mean 135 to be received each year, to bring active membership to 1500.

An average attendance increase of 49 each year to bring attendance to 750.

A Church School Enrollment increase of 50 each year to total of 600.

A Strengthened Fellowship by organizing the entire parish into a number of neighborhood "colonies" to express more effectively the interest and concern for one another, to strengthen the ties of Christian friendship, and to increase the influence of the Church in members' lives and that of the city.

Inspire, and where necessary assist financially, at least five of the church young people to prepare for careers of full-time Christian Service—as ministers, missionaries or directors of religious education.

An expanded Music Program which will include four children's and young peoples' choirs and four adult soloists with the Chancel Choir.

A Benevolence Giving Increase of $1,000 each year, to bring the giving to Our Christian World Mission to $10,000.00 annually.

The Hoped For Church Staff by 1960 would be: **Minister**, to give overall leadership of the Church life, with particular responsibility for preaching, administration and public relations.

Associate Minister, to direct the parish program of activities and fellowship, including supervision of the "Colony Plan."

Director of Christian Education to supervise the Church School and Youth Work.

College Worker to serve the church's college-age young people and to develop a program for Washburn University students.

Psychological Consultant to help individuals and families who wish personal guidance.

Organist and **Choir Directors - Two Secretaries - Two Sextons.**

Early in February a six-weeks fund raising campaign was launched by the Wells Organization. The Rev. Ned Burr McKenney states that the enthusiastic vote of approval given the entire program in January was most encouraging. He feels that the set of high and challenging goals, justify the extensive building program; that both are necessary to make Central Church adequate for the next generation.

Resignations

The Rev. Frank Raef, for the past five years the pastor of our church at Ford, resigned in January, effective February 29. During Mr. Raef's ministry at Ford, many improvements have been made. Gas furnaces have been installed in church and parsonage; both buildings have been painted and the church stuccoed. The garage has been remodeled and painted. Audio visual equipment has been purchased and Sunday bulletins have been available weekly. Mr. Raef has not made definite plans for the future.

The Rev. John Henry Hornung, pastor of the First Congregational Church at Hutchinson for the past six and one-half years, resigned at the Annual meeting of the Church on January 12. The resignation was accepted with regrets, effective October 31, 1956. Last year, Dr. Hornung celebrated the 50th Anniversary of his ordination. Dr. and Mrs. Hornung went to Hutchinson after 25 years at Plymouth Church, Wichita. Theirs has been an outstanding and unique ministery wherever they have served. We will greatly miss having them at the helm of a Kansas Church. We wish them much happiness in the years ahead, knowing they will find ways to serve, wherever they are. Their present plan is to move to Wichita to make their home and be near their children and grandchildren.

Missions Family Night

Since the first of the year, Osborne United Church has held their annual Family Night Series when all ages come to the church for supper followed by a program of interpretation of our Mission Work at home and abroad. Study books, speakers, filmstrips and movies are used to help in making the missionary program come alive.

The Proposed Union

Questions and Answers

A very worthwhile hour on the recent Convocation program included questions about the Union by the Rev. T. N. Goodale and answers by Attorney Roscoe Graves of Emporia, member of the General Council Executive Committee.

Attend Information Meeting

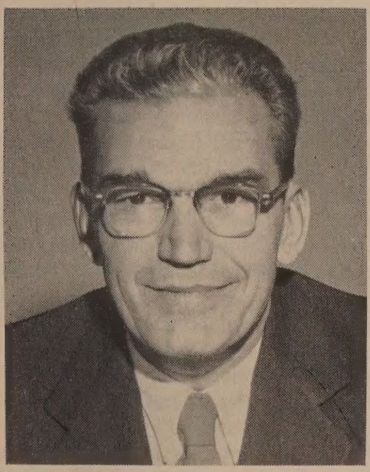
Seven area meetings of Congregational-Christian leaders with Evangelical and Reformed leaders are being held across the country. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Lancaster and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ewing attended the one held at Merom, Indiana, January 7 and 8. Presentations on History, Geography and Program were made by leaders from each fellowship. Plans for becoming better acquainted were discussed.

Advance Series

Beginning with the February 22 issue of Advance, ten studies on the history, life and work of our Congregational Christian fellowship will be given with ten parallel studies of the same features in Evangelical and Reformed churchmanship. The purpose is to provide strictly factual information respecting the two communions. These will give basic material for a study group in each local church. A package subscription rate makes the ten issues available for $1.00.

Pulpit Exchange

A nation-wide pulpit exchange between C & C and E & R ministers is recommended for April 8, or another Sunday in the near future. Much mutual benefit in Christian understanding can come from such exchanges.



J. Kenneth Kohler
Conference Guest

State Conference at Manhattan May 4, 5 and 6

It is not too early to start plans for attendance at the first weekend meeting of the State Conference. Sessions at our Manhattan Church will open with registration at 4:30 P. M., on Friday, May 4 and close at 4:30 P.M., Sunday afternoon, May 6.

Week-end Dates Requested

At the request of laymen, a special committee, made up of Ray Jones, Chairman, Daniel R. Hopkins and Carl Althaus, was named to study the situation and make recommendations. After careful study this committee announced the plans for a week-end meeting in a letter sent to all ministers and church clerks on June 27, 1955. Underlined in the letter was this sentence: "The success of this Conference depends upon the willingness of the individual ministers to leave their own pulpits on Sunday, May 6, and remain at the Conference." It is the hope that ministers and lay people will cooperate to set up pulpit supplies for May 6, that, ministers and lay people may become more integrally associated with the work of the larger fellowship.

Outstanding Program

Pictured on this page is one of the Guest Leaders, the Rev. J. Kenneth Kohler, Executive Secretary of the Churchman's Brotherhood of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. Before taking his present post as head of the E and R laymen's program, Mr. Kohler served a 4 year pastorate in Ohio, spent four years as missionary in China and had a 6 year pastorate in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His present headquarters are in St. Louis where he lives with his wife and three children. Other leaders include Mrs. Mary Fiebiger of Grinnell, Iowa and Dr. Fred Hyslop, Member of the Prudential Committee of the American Board. Further details about them next month.

New Audio-Visuals

"A Time to Build Up", sound filmstrip in color on our Indian work at Ft. Berthold in North Dakota.

"The Year That Flowered", 18 minute sound filmstrip (33-1/3 rpm) good for promoting One Great Hour of Sharing.

"On the Move" 18 minute sound filmstrip (33-1/3 rpm) shows how the relief program of the churches operates.

"The Waiting Ones" - 15 minute sound filmstrip (33-1/3 rpm) shows what we can do about the refugee problem.

Evangelism Committee

Hans Poppe, Chairman

The Cart Before the Horse

Yes, we've got the cart before the horse; but because that is such a quaint old phrase, we don't want to acknowledge or guilt. How many of you can remember ever having ridden in a horse-drawn cart? Well, you are outnumbered, for this is the age of jet planes and who is it that ever wants to think of that slow mode of travel? Back in the age of carts and horses, prayer meetings were in vogue, but when we went it wasn't with the idea of becoming transformed persons, it was with the sole idea of changing that person in the church that so irritated us, and it was because of this irritation and fault-finding that our prayers got no higher than our heads. We didn't for one minute think we needed to change!

We want Evangelism to count; we want our churches to fill up with really committed Christians, but are we willing to take the necessary steps? Not if that means each one of us will have to change—let's go on a few more years and groan and moan and say, "If only old gossipy Mrs. M. weren't so mean and what good did Mr. M. ever do in the church? Maybe we could bring a few more souls into our church if it weren't for these two?" Old Mrs. M. is impossible and I know Mr. M. will never say a good word for the church, but had you thought of praying for them? Fancy that! Some naive person thinks prayer will CHANGE THEM! I challenge you to try it and see.

Without PRAYER your efforts at Evangelism will accomplish far less than they should, because they may be superficial. The lever each one of us may use to change men's hearts is prayer. Will you put prayer FIRST in your life, or are you still determined for it to be extra curricular, and that only if there is time?

Some startlng figures were in the November "Children's Religion" from a paper read by Stanley North at Midwinter meeting of Missions Council at Clevland. He had made a study of our own yearbook to see how well we fulfill our task in Evangelism as a denomination. These are the uncomfortable figures: "In 1953, 1,105 churches received NO members, 674 churches did not bother to report and 1,996 received 9 or less." Then Dr. North says: "If this be the fruitage of our freedom and our liberal pulpit, it is hardly something over which to boast." I hope he went on in his paper and pointed out THE WAY to overcome these figures —it is Christ's way, so we know it is right—the way of prayer; haven't we tried EVERYTHING else?

I wish it had been reported in our Yearbook how many of these churches who received NO members had prayer groups . . . I'm safe in saying probably not one . . . we haven't believed in prayer . . . we're too educated for prayer . . . we've prided ourselves in our education . . . for years we've had the best educated leadership of any denomination—and we've given alost the least of any denomination. Others who have lacked all the fine education and can not boast of degrees, have had to rely on PRAYER, and what a glorious reliance! There is power in such lives—on fire for Christ! "But God has chosen what the world calls foolish to shame the wise; He has chosen what the world calls weak to shame the strong." (1 Cor. 1:27 - Phillips).

—Mrs. S. Duane Ogden
Evangelism Committee Member

Lent in the Church School

The other day I was talking with our Director of Christian Education about what material there was in our curriculum concerning Lent. He replied, "As far as I know, there is nothing in the curriculum specifically dealing with Lent. It all leads up to Easter", he said. Maybe this is the reason Lent has such little significance for our adults.

How Lent Began

What is Lent? Lent comes from an Anglo Saxon word "lecten" which means spring. It is a period of soul refreshment. Perhaps in the past we have felt that Lent belonged only to our Roman Catholic friends and we knew about it because on Ash Wednesday they always went to church and had ash marks put on their foreheads. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and is the forty days before Easter, not including Sundays. It is felt by some that the forty days comes from Jesus' forty days in the wilderness before he began his ministry and perhaps even goes as far back as the forty years the Hebrews spent wandering in the wilderness before they came to the Promised Land, and even the forty days spent by Moses on Mt. Sinai. At any rate, Lent was brought into being by the Council of Nicea in 326 A.D., as the forty days before Easter, as a period of spiritual preparation for Easter.

Some have felt that Lent was a period when they would give up things; a rather negative approach. For adults this might mean giving up cigars, cigarettes, alcoholic beverages, candy, movies, or other rather superficial denials.

A Period of Preparation

It ought to be a period of preparation and constructive deeds. In our church schools why couldn't we learn meaningful scripture passages, helpful prayers; and in the older departments read the life of Christ in one of the gospels (perhaps the book of Mark would be the best one to read.) For our young people, there are special Lenten devotions. Something extra in this kind of work could be devised in our church school for the appropriate age levels. Children might be urged to practice speaking kind words to their friends. We also might bring to their attention the matter of restitution, that is when they have done something wrong to somebody they should go and apologize to them and attempt to make right what they did wrong. This also might be a period in which the family could sit down and talk things over together. Children may volunteer such remarks as, "Well, mother or daddy, I don't understand why I have to give part of my allowance in the Church School offering." or "Why do I have to go to Church School when daddy does not go to church?" or - "Why do children in Asia and Africa have so little food?"

Perhaps some of these ideas will stimulate you in your Church School to make Lent more significant for our children and, as a result, our adults in the years to come.

—Richard R. Zoppel, Member
Christian Education Committee

Visits Eureka

The Assistant Superintendent thoroughly enjoyed his trip to Eureka on January 19 to speak to the women of Plymouth Guild. He visited at the Midwest Business Institute with President Percy Shue and had lunch with the pastor, Dr. Banks Blocher. The recent remodeling and redecorating are a fine improvement to the church interior.

Kansas Women's Fellowship

Mrs. Gordon Lancaster, President

In Memory

As evidence of the love and respect of those who knew them, the following names have been added to the Women's Fellowship Memorial Fund Roll of Honor.

Mrs. Paul Huske
Mrs. Millie Schaefer
By Topeka Seabrook Women's Fellowship

Mrs. Anna Kohlhas
Mrs. Kate Frazier
By Osborne Women's Fellowship

Mrs. G. C. Willig
Mrs. McMahan
Mrs. Lulu Carr
Mrs. George Dean
By Manhattan Women

"HEARTWARMERS!"

It was heartwarming to renew fellowship with our folks at Stanley and to see the young Jost, the minister's young son.

To visit at Emporia First Church, be served a delicious tea and to hear the beautiful old hymns of our church played on a zither by Mrs. H. W. Babinsky.

To go to Merom, Indiana with my husband and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ewing of our Russell Church, and meet many fine Evangelical and Reformed folks there. This was a training session for both communions and we learned that in most ways we are similar. It was very heartwarming to learn together, to eat and visit together, and to partake of communion together.

—Vera Lancaster

Program Planners Take Note

Are any organizations within your Church casting about for good program material? If so, this page may be a help for program planners.

There are two packets on the Missions emphasis of 1955-56, prepared by our Council for Social Action.

Either one may be used in concentrated form for a single meeting, but are so full of interest, more meetings probably will be desired.

The World Theme

The packet of world wide scope is entitled, "Christians in a Revolutionary World." This writer feels that two pamphlets, of the many included, are alone worth more than the $1.00 charge for the entire packet. It is, "The Revolution in Racial Concepts and Practices," written by Dr. Galen Weaver, Religion and Race Specialist of our denomination. He has condensed many of his speeches and articles into a fascinating history of race relations as only a recognized expert in his field could do. The other booklet is "What Goes On Here?" by Dr. Herman F. Reissig, specialist on our CSA staff in international affairs. It explains in a most readable way the seven "revolutions" or changes which are taking place in our time—making them understandable "even to you and me." Included also in the packet are aids to understanding published by other agencies, such as the United Nations Information Bureau, The Church Peace Union and our U. S. Government as well as our own Foreign Missions Board and the World Council of Churches.

The Home Theme

The other packet highlights our Home Missions project—the Indian American. Here is assembled material from the U. S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Council of Churches, many of the secular agencies dedicated to working with the first Americans, as well as material from our own denomination with a bibliography suggesting more material available from Congressmen and governmental agencies.

There are a few of these two packets (price $1.00 per packet) in the Conference Office, available to early comers by writing to Mrs. L. M. Rymph, 923 Kansas, Topeka. If too late for that supply, order from the Council for Social Action, 289 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

Also available are two books, "The Gift is Rich" and "Within Two Worlds" which are priceless for becoming acquainted with the rich historical and cultural backgrounds of Indian Americans. These should be read for the simple reason that they are as interesting as a current novel-fine idea for groups wanting book reviews. These are available in paper back editions (1.25 each) from Pilgrim Press, 19 South LaSalle St., Chicago 3, Ill.

Musts!

Did you hear the speaker on a recent radio program who said, "I am not worried about why our children CAN NOT read—what worries me is why grown up children DO not read." Which prompts the suggestion that all Congregational Christian "grown up children" subscribe to Advance and Social Action magazine — both are thoughtfully and interestingly written. Then someone in each church order the packet, "Christians in a Revolutionary World" and publicize the pamphlet in it, "Stop-Look-Listen." It is a guide to the best in newspapers and magazines as well as radio and TV programs. Here is the answer to "What Shall I read, listen to or look at in order to be a well informed person?"

—Kate Lee Ewing (Mrs. Ralph)
Social Action Secretary

Honored

Kansas Congregationalism is honored by having Mrs. Gordon Lancaster, chosen as the Recording Secretary of the National Fellowship at the recent meeting held at Buck Hill Falls, Pa.

First Annual WOMEN'S RETREAT

To be held at
Mc Pherson College

June 4-6
Monday Afternoon
thru
Wednesday Noon

Sponsored by
Kansas Women's Fellowship
Mrs. Gordon Lancaster, President
for
Church Women
Officers - Members - Leaders

Featuring
Inspiration - Fellowship
Program Helps

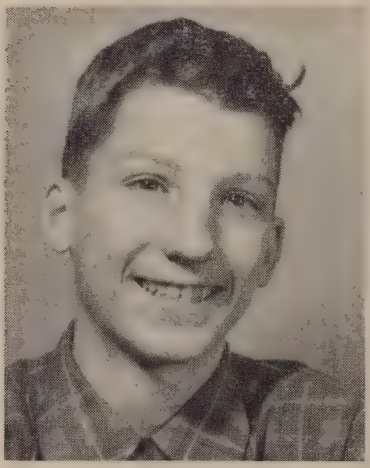
Lodging, Meals, Registration
at the College
Cost - $8.00
Guest Leader
Miss Ione Catton of Chicago

DON'T MISS
Sending a carload or more
From Your Church

Spark Your Women's Program

Kansas Pilgrim Fellowship

George Epps, President **Marilyn Bell, Secretary**



Dick Williams
Southern President

Camper's Return

Home from the land of camp they come,
Note far horizons in their eyes!
They've watched a sunrise from a hill,
Their hearts are free, unworldly wise.
They've seen the sun set on the lake,
Followed long trails to mountain heights.
Watched friendly camp fire gleam and glow.
Known a swift sailboat's keen delights.
They've crossed the sand dune desert space,
Camped out on islands in the sea.
Wakened to bird songs at the dawn,
Seen deer at dusk stand quietly.
Stone city pavements may seem hard,
Loud city noises may seem shrill,
But those with camp light in their eyes,
Will glimpse again a green clad hill
Where campers gathered in farewell,
Hand clasped in hand, pledged loyalty,
Sang favorite songs, gave reasons why
This camp was where they loved to be.
Home from the land of camp they come,
The small, the larger camper, too.
And those who guide, direct the work,
That camp life may be fine and true.
Welcome them home, but do not mind
If, sometimes, at the close of day,
They seem to hear a distant call,
And seem to be far, far away,

Mary Baker Thompson

The above poem reminds us that it is time we announce camp dates in bold letters.

CAMP WA-SHUN-GA

SENIOR CAMP
May 27 - June 2

JR. HI CAMP
For Next Year's 8th & 9th graders
June 3 - 9

For Next Year's 7th & 8th graders
June 10 - 16

Chicago Bound

After almost a year of planning and hard work, a dream came true right after Christmas for the PF'ers of Lawrence Plymouth pictured above. As a group of 19 including their sponsors, they noisily boarded the train in Lawrence for what was to be a wonderful four day visit to Chicago. The purpose of the trip, in addition to the fun involved, was to better comprehend the complexities of a city, and to see the work of our churches there, and in particular, the West Side Christian Parish, to which the Camp Wa-Shun-Ga Parish Missionary Action money, as well as the Workday for Christ funds had gone to help.

How The Other Half Lives

After an 8½ hour journey during which the PF'ers entertained their fellow passengers with their informal clowning, the group disembarked at Chicago's Dearborn station, and walked to the YMCA hotel nearby where they were lodged during the visit. The next few days were packed with tours, visits to museums, TV and radio programs, and the high point of the trip, the extensive bus tour of Chicago arranged by the Rev. John Schwenke of the Chicago City Missionary Society of our Congregational Churches. The PF'ers were thrilled with the rich "front yards" of Chicago's wealthy districts and at the same time sickened by the overpowering sense of need that fills the great downtrodden areas of Chicago's "backyards." At the West Side Christian Parish they heard the story first hand of their work in a community clouded by hate and filth, an overcrowded community where the average teenager has been arrested at least once, lives in a family whose home comprises 2-3 rooms at the most—8 or 9 sisters and brothers but no father. In this community the West Side Christian Parish tries to bring new hope and self respect to the people as it helps them to better standards of living. Disturbed by the appalling job ahead for the City Missionary Society, but thankful for having had at least a small part, along with other Kansas PF'ers, in helping with this vital Christian work, the group headed home.

Your P.F. Could Do It

The Lawrence P.F. hopes that other groups might make a similar journey. It can be done and without a lot of outside financial help. Together the group earned the train fare (or half the total expense) for everyone going. This was done thru nine months of projects such as bake sales, car washes, operating a launderette for a day, and a rag collection. This was in addition to their two Workdays for Christ.

Uncle Bill Bryant, Lawrence

West Side Christian Parish

Gleaned From 1955 Clerk's Report

Church	*Total Membership Jan. 1, 1955*	*Members Added 1954*	*Average Attendance 1954*	*Church School Enrollment*
Almena	130	8	58	160
Anthony	167	12	98	79
Ash Rock	24	2	—	37
Athol	93	1	65	37
Carbondale	70	18	72	224
Centralia	240	34	114	180
Council Grove	158	10	71	73
Cumberland	42	—	—	70
Dover	114	14	—	50
Downs	142	4	—	108
Ellis	222	11	—	76
Emporia First	505	50	—	254
Emporia Sardis	98	4	45	47
Eureka	225	7	84	70
Ford	145	3	37	96
Garden City	340	23	—	194
Garfield	72	7	—	23
Gaylord	119	3	—	100
Gorham	127	6	51	105
Great Bend	494	6	—	157
Haven	87	5	53	89
Hiawatha	48	0	—	0
Hutchinson	280	49	146	141
Independence	101	6	63	142
K. C. 1st Pilgrim	448	41	103	164
K. C. Rosedale	220	44	157	210
K. C. Ruby	251	12	100	157
K. C. Welborn	714	50	315	500
Kinsley	247	20	81	137
Kiowa	172	12	80	131
Kirwin	59	0	70	—
Lawrence Plymouth	971	107	651	434
Leavenworth	121	15	80	128
Lenora	131	6	54	122
Leona	36	0	—	45
Lincoln	168	20	131	115
Little River	191	16	—	194
McPherson	346	20	128	165
Maize	116	9	75	97
Manhattan	379	12	163	151
Maple Hill	157	5	—	126

Church	Total Membership Jan. 1, 1955	Members Added 1954	Average Attendance 1954	Church School Enrollment
Matfield Green	46	4	52	53
Milford	114	9	—	77
Mound City	109	—	—	102
Mount Hope	380	8	115	181
Muscotah	111	0	—	117
Neola	22	0	8	16
Newton	198	6	65	56
Olive Hill	109	3	78	90
Onaga	310	25	—	156
Osborne	147	1	—	116
Ottawa	76	4	—	110
Partridge	281	23	—	250
Pleasant Hill	56	0	10	—
Plevna	136	5	83	83
Prairie Village	361	72	—	148
Russell	335	31	—	163
Sabetha	485	31	202	364
Sedgwick	130	6	50	120
Seneca	160	17	82	101
Smith Center	136	18	97	122
Stanley	150	10	91	192
St. Marys	18	0	—	0
Stockton	108	4	87	60
Tonganoxie	149	11	35	85
Topeka Central	1116	95	505	351
Topeka First	796	97	293	528
Topeka Seabrook	476	90	172	379
Topeka Seaman	365	37	134	316
Towanda	102	0	39	139
Udall	95	5	—	49
Wakefield	98	4	82	103
Wheaton	56	3	30	18
Whitewater	251	12	—	170
Wichita Fairmount	584	78	—	395
Wichita Pilgrim	551	80	207	555
Wichita Plymouth	1772	276	661	597
Others	209			
TOTALS	19,369	1,737		11,848

NOTE—Even though 1,737 members were added during the year, we show a net gain of only 14, due largely to the fact that more than 1200 members were removed by roll revisions.

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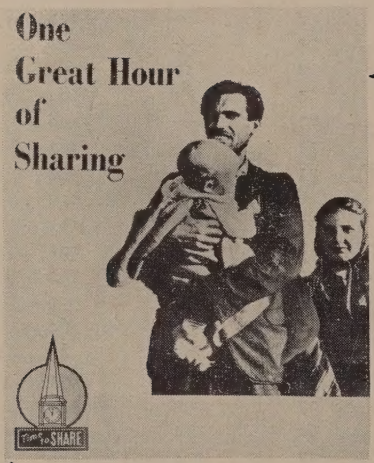

Time to Share

On Sunday, March 11, One Great Hour of Sharing will be observed by thousand of churches of many denominations across our land. It has become a landmark in the Lenten pilgrimage of our church people. For who can follow the Master on his last journey up to Jerusalem without turning aside on the Jericho Road to answer the cry of the sufferer beside the way?

(As in other years second mile credit will be given for One Great Hour of Sharing contributions. Send your gifts through your Conference Office, 923 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas.)